MINUTES

of the

75th Annual Session

of the

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association

Held With the Beulah Baptist Church Newton County, Mississippi, September 14, 15 and 16.

1912

Next place of meeting, Union Church, Newton County, Miss., Saturday before the third Lord's Day in September, 1913

OFFICERS

F. M. BRELAND, Moderator, Philadelphia, Miss.; G. P. CLARKE, Clerk, Decatur, Miss; J. E. GRAHAM, Treasurer, Decatur, Miss.

Newton Printing Co., Printers, Newton, Miss.

STATE OF RELIGION, AND FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE CHURCHES.

Dear brethren and sisters of the Mt. Pisgah Association:

The Lord in his mercy has seen fit to spare our lives for another year, and we are now in session with the church at Beulah. The church and community have received us cheerfully and cordially—entertained us liberally and abundantly. The weather was at first rather unpropitions, but did not materially interfere with the usual business. The session has been peaceful and harmonious.

Now, as to the state of religion, I have been at a loss to determine just how to write, and being thus in doubt I referred the matter to a leading, Baptist Minister of East Mississippi. I have decided to quote freely from his reply. It will, at least furnish food for much earnest thought. I quote:

"I can only give you some observation on the subject. The people generally do not seem to take religion and church work as seriously as they used to do. It is seemingly looked upon more as a pastime—something we have to put up with because it is a custom, rather than a business for our Lord and Master. Our church members, many of them, are not as pious as in former year. The mass of our laity do not attend attend church regularly, especially at the Saturday meetings, and the family altar is almost a thing of the past.

We are too busy to attend to these things, and, as a consequence, we leave them off, and our children are growing up with no regard for these things. Many of our preachers are seemingly afraid of the doctrines of the Bible. They preach a milk and cider gospel(?) that will offend no one, and make them popular with the folks. They have "itching ears"—not enduring sound doctrine—or rather not giv-

ing it to the people, consequently our churches are great in numbers, but short in deeds.

"We fill them with unconverted folks who do not love God, bnt fear hell. Knowing nothing of God how can they serve Him? Now the cure for this sad state of affairs is in the teachers—both ministers and lay members. Our leading members, deacons and others, must require a ministry who will give the people the gospel truth, backed up by a life of prayer and consecration to God. Accept no other. Then these truths to our younger members, so they will know the doctrines and do them.

"Our churches are also slack in discipline. This must be changed. We are not of the world, therefore we must put the world on the outside. Baptists are not what they used to be, we must get back to the Book in all our acts if we expect God to smile upon us." I commend the foregoing to the eanest and prayerful consideration of our people. May God bless and prosper His people.

G. P. CLARKE.

PROCEEDINGS

Of The Seventy-fifth Annual Session of the Mount Pisgah Baptist Assbciation.

Beulah Baptist Church.

Newton County, Miss., September 14, 1912.

On account of excessive rain, there was no one present to preach the introductory sermon, hence there was no preaching service at 11 a. m. A few of the messengers had arrived, however, and dinner was furnished to those present.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

A sufficient number of the messengers having arrived for the transaction of business, a hymn was sung, Elder Wm. Yarbrough offered prayer, and the Association was convened by the Moderator in her Seventy-fifth annual session.

The following Committees were appointed by the Moderator:

To read letters—R. K. Cleveland, T. A. Sims, Q. Q. Graham.

Finance—W. L. Robinson, T. L. Gaines, T. Gordon.

On Preaching—Pastor of Beulah church with J. E. Graham and J. S. Wells.

The roll of churches was called and messengers' names enrolled. (See table.)

Next, proceeded to the election of officers for the ensueing term. The present officers were reelected by acclamation: F. M. Breland, Moderator; G. P. Clarke, Clerk, J. E. Graham, Treasurer. Officers-elect accepted with thanks.

Petitionary letters called for. None presented.

Called for visiting ministers and corresponding messengers. None.

The following committees were appointed:

Queries and Requests— Wm. Yarbrough, W. B. Chamblee and H. C. Rush.

Nominations—J. E. Graham, H. O. White and W. F. Nicholson.

The committee on Preaching made the following report:

Elder Wm. Yarbrough to preach at the church tonight at 7:30. Prayer meeting at 9:30 tomorrow morning, led by J.S. Laird.

Elder H. C. Taylor to preach at the church, and Elder F. M. Breland at the school house at 11 o'clock a. m. tomorrow.

Ordered that collections for missions be taken after the morning service at both church and school house.

It was agreed, that instead of preaching service Sunday afternoon, the Association would take up and discuss the report on Missions.

On motion, ordered that the history of the separation of the Regular and Anti-Missionary Baptist, published in the minutes of 1899, be republished in the minutes of this meeting.

Adjourned to 8:30 Monday morning.

SUNDAY.

Prayer service was held at the church at 9:80, conducted by Eld. J. E. Breland, several brethren leading. At 11 o'clock Eld. H. C. Taylor preached from Phil. 2:16. Theme: The necessity of spreeding the Word in order to bring the world to Christ. Elder F. M. Breland preached at the same hour at the school house, from Mark. 16:15. Theme: The obligation to work for the spread of the Gospel. The sermons were earnestly delivered, and well received by large and orderly congregations. Collections were taken amounting to $ . .

In the afternoon the report on Missions was discussed by a number of brethren Elder J. E. Breland preached at the school house. Dinner had been served in great abundance by the church and community.

MONDAY MORNING.

Convened persuant to adjournment. After singing a hymn. Elder G. W. Breland offered prayer.

The roll was called and absentees noted.

The Rules of Decorum were read by the clerk.

Called for letters from churches not represented on Saturday.

On motion agreed to read the only names of messengers in reading the letters. Quite a number of letters were presented.

Renewed call for corresponding messengers and visiting ministers. Elders G. W. Breland and J. E. Breland from Oktibbeha Association were seated. Later in the day Elders S. B. Culpepper and C. L. Sansing came in and aided in the business. They were from Bay Springs Association.

Corresponding Messengers to Sister Associations were appointed as follows:

Pearl Valley—J. A. Grafton.

Oktibbeha—R. K. Cleveland, W. L. Collins, W. R. Moore, J. S. Laird.

Messengers authorized to write their own letters.

General Association—W. L. Robinson, H. C. Taylor, W. T. Cooper, W. R. Moore, N. V. Harrison, W. H. Rainer, J. A. Grafton, F. M. Breland, T. P. Jones, H. P. Everett.

On motion agreed to enter correspondence with Bay Springs Association, and H. C. Taylor and W. T. Cooper named as messengers.

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MISSIONS.

Elder R. K. Cleveland was given leave to speak again on the subject, after which the report was adopted. Report follows:

We report the following on Missions:

God's Word speaks the same marching orders today as ever. Go teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of

the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, with the promise, lo I am with you always.

Jesus died as the substitute for sinners, and assures us that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved. But they will not call upon Him in whom they have not believed, and cannot believe in Him of whom they have not heard, and cannot hear without a preacher, and he cannot preach unless he be sent. We see how beautifully this golden chain is linked together that makes it binding upon Christ's church to go into all the world with the gospel, and preach it to every creature. God's love to us prompted Him to make the great sacrifice upon the cross for us, so our love to Him and to the lost and perishing should prompt us in contributing freely, cheerfully, willingly, liberally and continuously to this glorious and heaven appointed work. The more we possess of the mind and Spirit of Christ, the more heartily will we engage in this glorious work.

We must be sure to take notice of our prosperity and give commensurate with it, for this is the law of giving as laid down in the New Testament. Then we believe it a Christian duty for every believer, and that God will not bless as according to the riches of his grace until we do. It is sad to see some diversity of opinion among the brethren as to the methods employed in doing mission work. For all such tends towards its cessation.

We believe in organiled work, and in that system which goes and evangelizes. We have not that statistics at hand to give the progress of the work this year; but God is abundantly blessing the efforts of His people. We have no patience with designing men who seek leadership and sow discord among the brethren. It is our belief, that if we will properly inform ourselves, we will be of one mind and united in the great work. God has abundantly blessed the Mt. Pisgah Association in the past.

May we press forward in sending the gospel, that we

may be sure of His blessings in the future. May the glorious gospel be preached in all the world.

R. K. CLEVELAND.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Report on Sabbath Schools read by T. A. Sims, fully discussed and adopted as follows:

As we come with our annual report on Sunday schools it makes our hearts rejoice to note the progress that has been made since the mobern movement by Robert Raikes in the year 1780. Mr. Raikes was a member of the church of England, and for years worked in the prision, and among the criminal classes of that country and he conceived the idea that prevention was better than cure, so he set about the task of preventing the boys from going to the bad, rather than trying to rescue them from the bad after they had gone. Then and there he started the great work of the Sunday School, and under God, the great work prospered and grew in England, finally making its way into America, and today, taking the entire world over, 15,000,000 people are enrolled in this great work. Men and women of God, should we not be proud of the Sunday School? I answer the question emphatically, yes. While there has been a great work done, we cannot stop and think the victory won, for there is still much to be done. One sad thing to me, is that parents stand aloof to the Sunday School, many of them, as they do not only stay away themselves, but will not send their children.

Dear brethren and sisters, as a lover of the Sunday School, I ask the question, what shall we do to get them interested and fall in with him and the great army of christian workers, and thereby heed the admonition of our Lord as he says, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." We believe the Sunday School, rightly carried on, is the strongest auxiliary of the church, where the Bible can be plainly tanght to both young and old. We notice that teaching the Word is

scriptural along with preaching the Word. Yes, our Savior taught the Word in the Synagogue, Matt. 9:35. Really preaching and teaching are closely connected. Teaching is causing another to know; preaching is a public proclamation, which may, or may not be, teaching. In the very last command the Savior gave to his Disciples on Mt. Olivet, he told them to teach. Matt. 28:20. The Apostles were teachers as well as preaches, Acts, 5:42. The Apostolic church had teachers, Acts, 13:1. We urge that all our churches, as far as possible, have denominational Sunday Schools. As far as literature is concerned, we recommend the Southern Baptist series.

Submitted,

T. A. Sims.

On motion, Elder H. C. Taylor was appointed to write report on Orphanage and mail to the clerk.

At this juncture, a collection was taken for the Orphanage, amounting to $23.43.

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PUBLICATIONS

Report read by W. H Rainer discussed and adopted as follows:

Your committee ask leave to submit the following: On this important subject, we should patronize the press more than we do, especially our religious press, which is intended to lift us up and enlighten We read of enlightenment, enlistment and enlargement, and this comes from the press and its influence in connection with other forces. First of all, we recommend the Bible, which should be read carefully and prayerfully. Then there are Bible helps, which are very important to Bible study. Then there are our denominational papers, such as the Mississippi Baptist, our home paper. Then the Baptist Record of Jackson, Miss.; the Western Recorder, of Louisville, Ky.: The Home Mission Field, the Foreign Mission Journal, the Orphanage Gem, and others we cannot mention. We

recommend the S. B. C. literature for Sunday schools. Now as to song books, we recommend that this Association, or rather the churches come together and adopt a certain book to be used in our song service.

Sumbitted,

W. H RAINER.

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QUERIES AND REQUESTS.

Read by Wm. Yarbrough and adopted.

We, your committee on Queries and Requests, report as follows: We find that Union church, Newton county, asks for the Association in the year 1913. We recommend that the Association go to Union church, Newton county, next year.

WM. YARBROUGH,
W. B. CHAMBLEE.

On motion, adjourned one hour for dinner, which, as before, was abundant and of excellent quality.

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MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Met pursuant to adjournment and continued reading of reports.

State of Religion read by G. P. Clarke and adopted. (See first page.)

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OBITUARIES.

Report read by H. O. White and adopted:

Your committee on Obituaries beg leave to report the following:

We find that God, in His goodness, since our last Association, has seen fit to remove from among us the follow- brethren and sisters:

Brethren James Bell, N. E. Carson, Walter McCoy, J.

J. Graham, Sr., J. B. Pool, J. S. Gordy, J. F. Curtis, R. D. Brown, R. J. Warren; Sisters, Tennie Robinson, Lida Robinson, S. E. Walton, Maud Freeman, Edna Gibson, Fannie Hunter, Clara Wallace, Clara Millard, Jane Taylor, Florence Elam, Emily Brunson.

May God in His infinite love and mercy comfort the bereaved, and make them to rejoice in anticipation of a happy reunion with the departed loved ones in the resurrection.

H. O. WHITE.

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NOMINATIONS.

Report read by J. E. Greham and adopted.

Your committee on Nominations submit the following:

Elder F. M. Breland to preach the next introductory sermon, Elder Wm. Yarbrough his alternate; Elder F. W. Gunn to preach the annual sermon on Missions, Elder W. H. Rainer his alternate.

J. E. GRAHAM.

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ORPHANAGE.

Your Orphanage committee rejoice to report that God has given unto us such an institution, and has given unto us Godly managers to care for the unfortunate ones. We, the Baptists of the state, have over two hundred children, who are looking to us largely for support. Will not every one be ready to administer to their support? We bless God for Brother and Sister Carter, who have the oversight of the dear unfortunate ones.

H. C. TAYLOR.

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FINANCE.

Report read by W. L. Robinson and adopted.

Your committee on Finance submit the following:

Associational fund	$ 76 36
Home missions	24 30
Orphanage collections	24 55
Mission collection	23 64
	$ 148 85

We have examined the Treasurer's report and find that he has disbursed the following amounts:

General Association	$ 50 00
Printing minutes and postage	63 00
Clerk's fee	20 00
J. R. Carter for Orphanage	19 03
	$152 03

Balance on hand.....$1.04

W. L. ROBINSON,
Chairman.

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WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION.

Report was read by F. M. Breland and adopted:

We are pleased to report that the interest in Woman's Missionary Union, for more efficient service in the Master's cause is constantly growing among our people.

We recommend that pastors and churches be urged to assume the great responsibility of meeting the need of training the women, especially the young membership for the Master's service. The W. M. U. work has been prompted by the love of God in the hearts of noble women. The great mission work was first done by noble women, who went first to the tomb of our Savior on the morning of His resurrection. The commission was handed to these noble women after the Savior completed His earthly work. They sought Him and found Him. Then He commanded them go and tell His disciples. They obeyed and this was conveyed as the first mission work.

This love for Christ's work has prompted the union of

Christian women, whereby they are enabled by united forces to do more for the cause of Christ. Our Mt. Pisgah Association has eight societies, and we hope to do a greater work in the fututre. The Missionary Union today is doing more work—giving more money than the whole Convention was fifteen years ago.

Respectfully submitted,

MISS ORA LEWIS.
Vice-President.

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No reports were sent in on the subject of Temperance, Education and B. Y. P. U. The subject of Temperance, was ably and earnestly discussed. Our people were urged to make every effort to suppress the illicit sale of liquor, and to abstain from the use of intoxicants.

The Association was addressed by Elder S. B. Culpepper, on the subject of Education, and it is needless to say that he discussed it ably. Clarke Memorial College was highly recommended.

Names of brethren appointed to write reports for next session:

Missions—F. W. Gunn.
Eduuation—W. R. Bryan.
Sabbath schools—W. L. Collins.
Publications—H. C. Taylor.
Orphanage—W. H. Rainer.
Obituaries—T. A. Sims.
State of Religion—G. P. Clarke.
Temperance—R. K. Cleveland.

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RESOLUTIONS.

1st. That the clerk be instructed to have the proceeding of this meeting printed where he can get the work most neatly and promptly done, paying for same when so done and approved by him; and that he distribute them among the churches as soon as possible, drawing on the

treasurer for his usual salary, printer's fee, and postage, reserving a sufficient number of copies for distribution.

2nd. That all money on hand for the Orphanage be sent direct to the Baptist Orphanage at Jackson, Miss., by the Treasurer, and all funds on hand after the expenses of this Association have been met, be sent to the General Association.

3rd. That we most heartily tender our sincere thanks to the Beulah church and community at large for their kind and generous entertainment of the Association during this meeting.

4th. That we now adjourn to meet with the Union church, Newton county, Mississippi, on Saturday before the third Lord's day in September, 1913.

A hymn was sung, the parting hand was given, and prayer and benediction by the Moderator closed a harmonious meeting of the Mt. Pisgah Association.

F. M. BRELAND,
Moderator.

G. P. CLARKE,
Clerk.

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ORDAINED MINISTERS.

R. K. Cleveland, ... Decatur
H. O. White..... ..... Decatur
E. W. Gunn, ... Hickory
F. M. Breland,..... ..... Philadelphia
D. M. Stroud,..... ..... Lake
W. H. Rainer,..... ..... Union
Joe Rushing,..... ..... Harperville
H. C. Taylor,..... ..... Union
W. L. Grafton,..... ..... Union
S. W. Johnson,..... ..... Union
D. B. Cannon,..... ..... Philadelphia
J. S. Laird..... .... Decatur
G. M. May..... .... Decatur
Wm. Yarbrough, ... Lawrence
E. W. Breland, ... Hayes

W. L. Collins, ...Union
R. W. Bryant, ...Union
W. B. Hammond, ...Lawrence

LICENTIATES.

T. A. Sims, ...Decatur
Ed. Red, ...Union
J. M. Williams, ...Hickory
J. G. Giles, ...Chunkey
T. I. Bryant, ...Conehatta
G. W. Brantley, ...Sebastapol

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall consist of delegates chosen by the churches to which they respectively belong, and shall be styled the Mt. Pisgah Association.

2. Such delegates shall be members in good standing, and no member under church censure shall be allowed a seat in the Association.

3. They shall produce letters certifying their appointment by their respective churches, and stating the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and deceased, during the preceding Associational year, with the total number in fellowship, and such other statistical matters as the Association may direct.

4. This Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be annually chosen by a majorlty of the members present, by ballot or otherwise. Said officers shall fill their respective places, if present, at the succeeding Association, until a new election takes place, and while in office, shall discharge the duties ordinarily incidental to those offices. Provided that no one shall hold the office of Moderator for more four consecutive terms.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the Assciation, they shall petition by letter and delegates, and, if orthodox and orderly, shall be received, and the Moderator shall recognize them by giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the body.

6. Every church shall be allowed two delegates and no more until her number shall be one hundred—three until it shall exceed one hundred and fifty, then four and no more.

7. The Association shall neither answer or debate any query on Gospel doctrine, exeept it be merely to explain of the Articles of Faith of this Association.

8. Every motion made in order and seconded, shall be reduced to writing if requesred by any member, and shall be considered by the Association except withdrawn by the mover before discussion.

9. Motions made at lost, shall not be recorded on the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

10. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each point separately.

11 Only one member shall speak at the same time, who shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the subject properly in debate, cast no reflection on the Association, or any member thereof and shall not be interrupted while speaking.

12. No person shall speak more than once upon the same subject till all may desire to speak thereon have enjoyed that privilege, and not then without leave of the Association.

13. The Moderator shall have the privilege of speaking on any question to the body.

14. The Moderator shall decide questions of order, but an appeal from such decision may be taken to the whole body, which shall be declared without debate.

15. A majority of the members present shall be necessary to carry any motion or proposition, and the Moderator shall vote as any other member when the question is taken; and in case of a tie, the question shall again be put to the Association, and if not then decided, the Moderator shall then proceed to decide the matter in controversy by lot.

16 Committees shall be nominated by the Moderator subject to the approval of the Association.

17. There shall be no talking or whispering while a brother is speaking.

18. No brother shall finally depart from the Association without leave of the body.

19. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by Clerk and called over when necessary.

20. The minutes shall be read and carefully corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator ond Clerk before the Association rises.

21. A motion of final adjournment shall be construed to involve the previous reading and adjustment of the minutes.

22. The association shall be opened by prayer.

23. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read by order from the Moderator, as soon as the Association convenes on Monday.

24. The foregoing Articles shall be subject to alteration or amendment by any regular meeting ot the Association by a majority of the Association.

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ABSTRACTS OF FAITH—PREAMBLE.

We the churches of Jesus Christ, who have been regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith, and convinced of the utility of maintaining a correspondence for the preserving of union amongst churches of the same faith form ourselves into an Association upon the following principles viz:

1. We believe in one Triune God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God, and are the only rules of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam from his original rectitude, and in him, all his prosterity in consequence of which, we inherit a fallen and depraved nature, consequently the scriptural doctrine of the total depravity of human nature. and of man's inability to restore himself into the favor of God.

4. We believe that God hath loved His people with an everlasting love, that He chose them in Christ before the foundation of the world, that He calleth them with a holy and effectual calling and being justified alone through the righteousness of Christ, imputed to them, are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

5. We believe there is one Meditator between God and man—The man Jesus—who, by the satisfaction He made to the law and justice, in becoming an offspring for sin, hath, by His most precious blood, become the end of

righteousness to everyone that believeth.

6. We believe that the Gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth—that He has commanded it to be preached to every creature and required all men to repent, believe and obey.

7. We believe that the Gospel is made effectual by the operation of the Holy Spirit, and that the sinner, in order to be saved must be born again.

8. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith and follow after justification, and are evidences of a gracious state, and all believers are bound to obey every commany of God from a principle of love.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, a general judgement and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

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GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of persons who have been baptized upon a profession of their faith, and who have given themselves to our Lord, and to one another in brotherly convenant to keep up a Godly discipline agreeable to the teaching of the New Testament.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only Head and Lawgiver of His church; that the government is with the body, the church, and has equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are Gospel ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ; and are to be continued in the church until His second coming.

4. We believe that the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper are properly administered only by ministers called of God and set apart to the work by the imposition of hands by a Presbytery of Regular Baptist ministers.

5. We believe that immersion only is baptism, and that believers in Christ are the only proper subjects.

6. We believe that none but regularly baptized church

members have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

7. We Believe that it is the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of the faith, to submit to the ordinances of the Gospel and give themselves as members to the visible church.

8. We believe it to be the duty of every church to expel from her communion every member that is immoral in conduct, or that holds doctrine contraay to the Scriptures.

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OBJECTS AND POWERS OF THIS ASSOCIATION.

1. This Association acknowledges and maintains that each church is an independent body and posseses the sole right to exercise and control its own affairs; and therefore this Association has no right or power to interfere with the internal rights and privileges of churches composing its body, but may withdraw from any church which may hold false doctrine, or tolerate immoral practice

2. The objects of this Association shall be to promote fellowship and harmony among the chuches; to inquire into any difficulties between the churches, and remove them if possible; to give the churches the best advice they can in difficult matters, when solicited, and, in general, to advance the interest of the Redeemer's kingdom in any way they may deem practical.

3. With regard to the benevolent institutions in our country, we desire it to be the inalienable right of every Association, of every church, of every individual member of a church, to support them according to their own views of duty and dictates of their own consciences; and the right shall never be called in question in this Asscciation. And any motion whereby the right is called in question shall instantly be ruled out by the Moderator, as being unconstitutional.

4. This Association may maintain a friendly correspondence, when convenient, with other religious bodies of the same faith.

5. Ministers of the Gospel in good standing, though not delegates, may be invited to seats in the Association, but not to have the privilege of voting.

6. The Assocition may appoint any person or persons by and with their consent, to transact any business they may deem necessary.

7. The Association may adjourn to any time and and place they think proper.

8. The Association shall keep a record of their proceedings, and have them printed when necessary.

9. The Association shall have a fund, and appoint a treasurer to take charge of it, who shall account to the Association for all moneys which shall come into his hands for the use of the Association.

10. The Association shall form their own By-laws and regulate their own proceeding in such a manner as they may think expedient.

HISTORY

Of the Separation of the Anti-Missionary Elements From The Missionary Elements in the Mt. Pisgah Association Reprinted From The Minutes of 1899.

The Mt Pisgah association was constituted into a body in the year 1837, at the Mt. Pisgah church, Rankin county, Miss. The origional minute containing the act of organization. I have not been able to obtain, though much effort has been made. We are, however, sure of the fact, that it was constituted on the Scripture principles of church equality and independence, and securing the right of each member of each church to do as he will with his own. I was first a member of the body in the year 1841, at Bethel church, Newton county, Miss. The session was, in the main, harmonious. There was discussion, however, on the subject of missions. This grew out of a proposition for the Association to enter upon the work of domestic missions within its bounds.

The subject was warmly discussed, and with some sharpness; but the question was withdrawn or passed over. There was manifested an anxious desire on the parts of the friends of mission to go forward. The subject renewed in the body at the sessions of 1842 at Doak's Creek church, Madison county, Miss. There was a warm discussion, and more felling than was commendable. The Densons, Chambers, Martin, Green, Jones, Bass, and Clarke may be said to have led on the liberal side; while Wilbanks, Berry, Fortson, Slay, Feeney, Craft and others, led the opposition. There was much feeling, and almost defiiance. It was clear that a division was near, unless the anti-element would give way as it was clear that the friends of missions were largely in the majority. The body, though, adjourned

in order, except feeling. The ensuing Associational year was one of much concern and investigation.

The misson principle evidently gained strength, while the opposition was intensified, and was canvassing, aiming, if possible to get control of the body. Elder Wilbanks visited amost every church in the Association during the year; why, it was not then known, but was made plain when the body met in the session of 1843, at Mt. Sinai church.

This was the Seventh annual session of the body, and was numerically attended, the largest session of the body yet held. It was my lot to preach the introductory sermon. Eld. Martin, the past moderator, called the body to order and organized the same. He had been moderator for two years, and it was supposed by the friends of missions, would be again, without opposition, but was defeated by Eld. Elijah Wilbanks, showing clearly that he had been canvassing for the office, thus to get control of the Association. The treasurer, in those days, was appointed by the moderator, subject to the approval of the body. Bro. Wilbanks appointed a most determined Anti-Missionary to the office of Treasurer, and made such other appointments as put the body under the control of the anti-mission element of the Association. The body, in the exercise of her rights, refused to ratify his appointments requiring the offices to be filled by men in harmony with the popular sentiment of the Association. This, of course, was on Saturday. Many were unhappy, hard sayings were uttered; yet the body adjourned in order, but alienated in feeling. But little brotherly intercourse was had between the two parties. The Lord's day psssed without much religious enjoyment. One minister appointed under the Wilbank's administration to preach on Sunday was given to understand that his appointment was not agreeable, he being a visiting minister, and a non-fellowshipper. There was a large congregation on Sunday. Elders Granberry and Merchant preached. Joel Harvey the non-fellowshipping minister had a separate appointment. That body friendly to missions were firm but considerate.

The meeting of the Association was solemn and orderly, but not social. Elder Wilbanks presided with fairness till the close of the session; but did not return to organize the body. About the ordinary course was taken in business. Among the items of new business, was the introduction of the following resolution. "Resolved, that the churches be requested to state in their letters to the next session of this Association, whether it be their minds to invest the surplus funds in the treasury, in employing a faithful minister, or ministers, to ride and preach the gospel in the destitute parts of our Association, and if not, what disposition shall be made of them; and that such as approve of an itineracy, send up contributions specified for that purpose." This resolution was discussed with much feeling and faithfulness, and arrayed the two interests against each other, the Mission, and Anti-Mission. Feeling had reached its extreme. Just before, or soon after the adoption of the resolution, Elder Roderic R Fortson arose and addressed the body in a short talk, and closed by saying: "We are not of you, and that it may be clearly seen that we are not, we go out from you," and walked out of the house, followed by a number of delegates. Neither Fortson, nor the withdrawing party returned any more. Elder Wilbanks presided till the body adjourned. These events took place Oct. 2nd, 1843. During the ensuing Associational year, the line became more closely drawn. The Association went into mission work at the next session, and the anti-missionaries formed themselves into an association of their own. This was a sad occasion, and sadness seemed to rule all minds there. It seemed, though, unavoidable. The powers of the Association allowed all to give, or not to give, but that did not satisfy. The Anti-Missionaries were the withdrawing party. The Association lost but little in strength or numbers when they left us; seven or eight churches most of them small; three ordained ministers, possibly some licentiates, but none remembered.

At the session of 1843, the minutes show a mem-

bership of 1,434; at the session of 1844, they show a membership of 1,338, a loss of 96 members. This is an honest statement of the facts as to the withdrawing of the Anti-missionaries from the Mt. Pisgah Association. The session for 1844 was held with Line Creek church, Scott county. Then the body went harmoniously into the work of Missions, and has continued through all the years since either in her own body, or through the General Association.

Elder Alanson Goss was our first Missionary. May God be praised for His goodness.

N. L. CLARKE.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES	COUNTY	No. of Pupils	No. of Teachers	Kind of Literature
Beulah	Newton	60	5	Baptist
Beat Line	Newton	23	1	Bible
County Line	Neshoba	50	4	Baptist
Chunkey	Newton	100	6	Baptist
Decatur	Newton	32	5	Baptist
Dixon	Neshoba	64	3	Baptist
Good Hope	Newton	36	3	Baptist
Hickory	Newton	80	7	Baptist
Hazel	Newton	80	4	Union
Hope	Neshoba	60	6	Baptist
Midway	Newton	38	3	Baptist
Mt. Pleasant	Newton	.....	5	Baptist
Neshoba	Neshoba	130	7	Baptist
New Ireland	Newton	40	3	Baptist
Oakland	Newton	41	4	Baptist
Pine Bluff	Newton	45	3	Baptist
Pleasant Ridge	Newton	75	4	Baptist
Salem	Scott	35	3	Union
Sulphur Springs	Scott	53	4	Union
Union	Scott	84	4	Baptist
Union	Newton	264	9	Baptist

TABLE OF MESSENGERS

CHURCHES	COUNTY	POSTOFFICE.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS
Beulah	Newton	Decatur	T A Sims, J E Graham, Leonard Parks, J S Chaney
Bluff Springs	Neshoba	Union	A W Tidwel , Roy Boler, G J Hillman
Beat Line	Newton	Decatur	A W Edwards, S R Allgood
County Line	Neshoba	Union	J R Sansing, W J Cooper
Centre Ridge	Newton	Battlefield	J M Wells, J S Wells
Cross Roads	Newton	De atur	M F Mann, H B Thornton
Chunkey	Newton	Chunkey	T J Smith, T P Jones, J M Smith
Decatur	Newton	Decatur	J K Jordan, O Q Graham, T L Gaines, G P Clarke
Dixon	Neshoba	Union	Irvin Lewis, Alton Gardner
Ebenezer	Newton	Lawrence	J B Hammond. T J Bounds
Ebenezer	Neshoba	Dixon	Roy Walton, Oscar McKee, Arthur McKee
Ephesus	Scott	Forest	Fayette Graham Henry Myers
Good Hope	Scott	Lake	Tom Ivey, Robert Gordy
Good Hope	Newton	Hickory	By letter
Hopewell	Newton	Battlefield	W H Harrison, E W Beeman, C N McMahan
Hickory	Newton	Hickory	A C Hailey, L E Pierce, Jeff Blass
Hazel	Newton	Lake	H C Rush, J Wayne
Hebron	Newton	Dec tur	J S Laird, J P Reynolds
Hope	Neshoba	Philadelphi	J A Grafton Rush Barham
Mt. Sinai	Neshoba	Philadelphia	N M Fox, F M Breland

Hebron	Newton	Decatur	J S Laird, J P Reynolds
Hope	Neshoba	Philadelphi	J A Grafton Rush Barham
Mt. Sinai	Neshoba	Philadelphia	N M Fox, F M Breland

Midway	Newton	Newton	C R Russell, J W Jones
Mt. Pleasant	Newton	Hickory	B F James, B O Allen
New Prospect	Newton	Union	I G Evans, Willis Day
Neshoba	Neshoba	Neshoba	J Smith, R E James, Ben Rhodes, J E McCraw
New Providence	Newton	Chunkey	J L Peavey, C D Lindley
New Ireland	Newton	Union	T D Gordon, Tom Gulley
Oakland	Newton	Hickory	C O Reynolds, T E Johnston
Pinckney	Newton	Union	J E Collins, W G Chamblee
Pleasant Hill	Newton	Conehatta	Not represented
Pine Bluff	Newton	Decatur	A M Valentine, G W Mabry
Pine Ridge	Newton	Lawrence	D M Stroud, N V Harrison
Poplar	Newton	Conehatta	C M Addy, J G Graham
Pleasant Ridge	Newton	Chunkey	W L Robinson, H P Everett
Rock Branch	Newton	Union	W H Rainer, W F Nicholson
Salem	Scott	Forest	J F Lay, W Thomas
Sulphur Springs	Scott	Conehatta	G W Amis, J L Cloud
Sand Springs	Newton	Hickory	J M Williams, O O Jones
Sardis	Scott	Sebastapol	Vander Willis, C C Easom
Stratton	Newton	Stratton	W F Rowzee, S E Gordon
Union	Scott	Harperville	M A Putnam, Oscar Curtis
Union	Newton	Union	W L Collins, R W Bryant, A F May, W N McLemore

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	COUNTY	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Dead	Males	Females	Colored	Total	No. Minutes	Associational Fund	Ord Ministers	Licentiates	PASTORS
Beulah	Newton		2		1		2	64	102	1	167	30	3 00	2	1	G W Breland
Bluff Springs	Neshoba	1	2		1	4		25	29		54	20	2 00			J S Chatham
Beat Line	Newton	4			3			21	18		39	15	1 50			
County Line	Neshoba		1		2	1		22	32		54	10	1 00	1		
Centre Ridge	Newton	4			1	3		24	27		51	15	1 50			H C Taylor
Cross Roads	Newton	1	2					14	14		28	10	1 00			Wm. Yarbrough
Chunkey	Newton	12	4		3			57	72		129	30	3 00			R A Venable
Decatur	Newton	12	2		5		3	103	134	1	238	40	4 00			F M Breland
Dixon	Neshoba	1	2	1	4			22	18		40	15	1 50	1		J S Chatham
Ebenezer	Newton				18			20	44		64	12	1 20			J H Satterfield
Ebenezer	Neshoba	6	4	2	2		1				60	15	1 50			H C Taylor
Ephesus	Scott	2	1	2	3		1	20	30		50	15	1 50			G M May
Good Hope	Scott		3		1	1		29	40		69	20	2 00			G M May
G od Hope	Newton	1	1		4			25	32		57	10	1 00			Z K Gilmore
Hopewell	Newton	10		2	11			48	59		105	25	2 25			W H Rainer
Hickory	Newton	4	13		8			60	70		130	25	3 00	1		R A Venable
Hazel	Newton	35	8		3	5	1	40	58		98	20	2 00			R L Breland

Hopewell	Newton	10		2	11			48	59		105	25	2	25			W H Rainer
Hickory	Newton	4	13		8			60	70		130	25	3	00	1		R A Venable
Hazel	Newton	35	8		3	5	1	40	58		98	20	2	00			R L Breland

Hebron	Newton	2		1		7	1	7	39	38		77	25	2	50	1		W H Rainer
Hope	Neshoba			1					23	28		51	20	2	00			L E Lightsey
Mt. Sinai	Neshoba					2		1	22	30		52	20	2	00			W H Rainer
Midway	Newton	1				4		1	16	30		46	15	2	00			Wm. Yarbrough
Mt. Pleasant	Newton					6		1	25	42		67	15	1	50			F W Gunn
New Prospect	Newton	11				1		1	26	47		73	20	2	00			R G Joiner
Neshoba	Neshoba	16	8	1	10			1	83	92		175	30	3	00			L E Lightsey
New Providence	Newton				7				13	16		29	10	1	00		1	W J Bruner
New Ireland	Newton	2	2		2			1	37	41		78	20	2	00		1	W L Collins
Oakland	Newton	7	3		1				24	51		75	15	1	50			F W Gunn
Pinckney	Newton	1	4						28	37		65	15	1	50			J F Sansing
Pine Bluff	Newton		3						25	43		68	15	1	50			J S Chatham
Pine Ridge	Newton	6		2	10	4	2		11	14		25	10	1	00	2		Wm. Yarbrough
Poplar	Newton	14	1						26	28		54	20				1	G M May
Pleasant Ridge	Newton	15	6	8	1				19	38		57	20	2	00			Z K Gilmore
Pleasant Hill	Newton								70	80		150	40					Last yr's statistics
Rock Branch	Newton	4		1	24				22	43		65	15	1	50	1		W H Rainer
Salem	Scott	1			6	1	1		18	17		35	15	1	50			C L Sansing
Sulphur Springs	Scott	5	3		1			2	49	58		107	12	1	25	1		C L Sansing
Sand Springs	Newton								25	30		55	10	1	00		1	Wm. Yarbrough
Sardis	Scott							1	12	30		42	15	1	50		1	W O Owen
Stratton	Newton	8	1		1				18	20		38	13	1	30			L M Phillips
Union	Scott	8	2		1			1	40	60		100	25	5	00	1		S C Gordon
Union	Newton	15	29		6			3	97	149		246	21	2	10	4		R W Bryant
	Totals	209	109	19	160	20	25					3263	763					

FINANCIAL TABLE

CHURCHES	COUNTY	Missions	Orphanage	Ministerial Aid	Building and Repairing	Pastor's Salary	Other Purposes	Total	Value of Church Property
Beulah	Newton	$ 29 00	$ 6 00	$	$1000 00	$ 80 00	$ 5 00	$1120 00	$1500 00
Bluff Springs	Neshoba			2 00	100 00	75 00	2 00	179 00	
County Line	Neshoba	11 25					1 50	1 50	500 00
Centre Ridge	Newton					75 00	1 50	76 50	500 00
Cross Roads	Newton			11 50			1 00	12 50	500 00
Chunkey	Newton	24 36	25 00	45 00	100 00	250 00	3 00	447 36	2000 00
Decatur	Newton	94 32	7 25				41 00	138 57	1000 00
Dixon	Neshoba	7 56		11 48		75 00	1 50	94 04	
Good Hope	Scott					35 00	2 00	37 00	
Hopewell	Newton			7 70			2 25	9 95	
Hickory	Newton	90 00				250 00	27 00		
Hazel	Newton	14 00	20 00	29 80		75 00	2 00	140 80	
Hebron	Newton	16 50		12 90			2 50	31 90	
Hope	Neshoba	18 10		9 00			7 00	34 10	800 00
Mt Sinai	Neshoba	30 00				75 00	2 00	107 00	500 00
Midway	Newton	12 00		21 00	90 00	50 00		173 00	400 00
Mt. Pleasant	Newton	39 70	10 20	16 70	37 00	150 00		254 50	700 00
New Prospect	Newton	9 10		10 30		35 00		54 40	400 00
Neshoba	Neshoba	73 56	15 60		5 00	175 00	~~170~~ 50	490 15	1275 00
Oakland	Newton					150 00		150 00	1000 00
Pinckney	Newton	10 00		14 00	29 00	66 00		119 00	500 00
Pine Bluff	Newton	11 65		15 00				26 75	800 00
Pine Ridge	Newton			8 50			1 00	9 50	
Pleasant Ridge	Newton			19 10	65 00	50 00		134 00	665 00
Rock Branch	Newton		47 35	29 75		82 00			
Salem	Scott	22 50	6 00	27 75		69 00	25 60	146 00	500 00
Sulphur Springs	Scott	29 25	5 00	23 76		103 80	28 00	188 80	800 00
Stratton	Newton					100 00		600 00	500 00

Pinckney	Newton	10 00	.....	14 00	29 00	66 00	.....	119 00	500 00
Pine Bluff	Newton	11 65	.....	15 00	.....	.....	.....	26 75	800 00
Pine Ridge	Newton	.....	.....	8 50	.....	.....	1 00	9 50	.....
Pleasant Ridge	Newton	.....	.....	19 10	65 00	50 00	.....	134 00	665 00
Rock Branch	Newton	.....	47 35	29 75	.....	82 00	.....	.....	.....
Salem	Scott	22 50	6 00	27 75	.....	69 0	25 60	146 00	500 00
Sulphur Springs	Scott	29 25	5 00	23 76	.....	103 8	28 00	188 80	800 00
Stratton	Newton	.....	.....	.....	.....	100 00	.....	600 00	500 00